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Application No.: 09/941,327
Examiner: V. Bui

Amendments to the Claims

*As per the Amst
after FN.
Thank you
VB
2/17/05*

1-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A tubular stent comprising:

a longitudinal cylindrical base structure having a first end portion, a second end portion, and a mid-portion interposed between the first and second end portions, the first and second end portions having a first pattern and the mid portion having a second pattern different from the first pattern, the second pattern including a plurality of articulations,

a plurality of linear strut members connecting the mid portion to the first and second end portions, wherein the mid portion includes a plurality of articulations; and

a surface coating having at least two layers coating the longitudinal cylindrical base structure, wherein the surface coating includes a drug inhibiting restenosis, with the drug having a higher concentration at the first and second end portions than at the mid portion.

24. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the plurality of articulations are a plurality of undulating members.

25. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the first pattern is an open cell design and the second pattern is a closed cell design.

26. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal cylindrical base structure is made of a metal.

27. (Withdrawn) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal cylindrical base structure has a thickness greater at the first and second end portions than at the mid portion.

28. (Canceled)